

REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claim 1 is rejected over 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the patent to Brundage.

Claim 1, 2, 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the patent to Kelsey-Hayes.

Claims 2, 3, 4, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) over the patent to Brundage.

Claims 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the patent to Kelsey-Hayes.

At the same time the Examiner indicated that claim 5 was not rejected over the art.

Claims 8-6 have been withdrawn from further consideration.

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of claim 5 has been gratefully acknowledged. In connection with this, claim 5 has been canceled and

its features have been introduced into claim 1. It is believed that claim 1 therefore should be in allowable condition.

The retained claims 2-4 and 6-7 depend on claim 1, they share its presumably allowable features, and therefore it is respectfully submitted that they should be allowed as well.

With the present Amendment application has also amended the specification, to provide proper handling and to remove references to the claims in the specification.

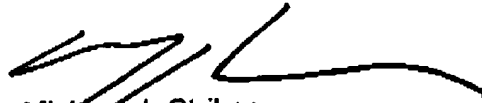
It is believed that the present application should be considered as being in allowable condition.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should

the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance'; he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael J. Striker', written over the typed name.

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